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Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
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What You Should Know About Diesel Truck Idling

Diesel Fuel Costs for Idling Trucks

Fuel Costs/gallon→		$2.25			$2.50			$2.75			$3.00		
# of trucks in Fleet →		1	10	50	1	10	50	1	10	50	1	10	50
Idling Time													
hours/day	days/year												
2		$4.50	$45.00	$225.00	$5.00	$50.00	$250.00	$5.50	$55.00	$275.00	$6.00	$60.00	$300.00
	275 days	$1,237.50	$12,375.00	$61,875.00	$1,375.00	$13,750.00	$68,750.00	$1,512.50	$15,125.00	$75,625.00	$1,650.00	$16,500.00	$82,500.00
4		$9.00	$90.00	$450.00	$10.00	$100.00	$500.00	$11.00	$110.00	$550.00	$12.00	$120.00	$600.00
	275 days	$2,475.00	$24,750.00	$123,750.00	$2,750.00	$27,500.00	$137,500.00	$3,025.00	$30,250.00	$151,250.00	$3,300.00	$33,000.00	$165,000.00
6		$13.50	$135.00	$675.00	$15.00	$150.00	$750.00	$16.50	$165.00	$825.00	$18.00	$180.00	$900.00
	275 days	$3,712.50	$37,125.00	$185,625.00	$4,125.00	$41,250.00	$206,250.00	$4,537.50	$45,375.00	$226,875.00	$4,950.00	$49,500.00	$247,500.00
8		$18.00	$180.00	$900.00	$20.00	$200.00	$1,000.00	$22.00	$220.00	$1,100.00	$24.00	$240.00	$1,200.00
	275 days	$4,950.00	$49,500.00	$247,500.00	$5,500.00	$55,000.00	$275,000.00	$6,050.00	$60,500.00	$302,500.00	$6,600.00	$66,000.00	$330,000.00
10		$22.50	$225.00	$1,125.00	$25.00	$250.00	$1,250.00	$27.50	$275.00	$1,375.00	$30.00	$300.00	$1,500.00
	275 days	$6,187.50	$61,875.00	$309,375.00	$6,875.00	$68,750.00	$343,750.00	$7,562.50	$75,625.00	$378,125.00	$8,250.00	$82,500.00	$412,500.00

Assumptions

1. Studies have shown that diesel trucks and buses use 0.75—1.2 gallons of fuel per hour of idling, depending on the size and type of engine. An average of one gallon of fuel consumed per each hour of idling was used in the above table. The cost figures represent the estimated cost of diesel fuel while the truck idles for the indicated hours per day (hours/day) and days per year (days/year) and not the overall fuel cost for operating the truck.
2. While most over-the-road trucks are in service for 300 days or more per year, the number of annual "in-use days" for the average truck has been conservatively estimated at 275 days.
3. The amount of savings for reduced idling can be estimated by using this table. For example, by reducing the idling time for a fleet of 50 trucks at $2.75 per gallon from 6 hours to 2 hours, the estimated fuel cost savings is $550.00 per day ($825 - $275) and $151,250.00 per year ($226,875 - $75,625).

Alternatives to Diesel Truck Idling

1. **Turn Off the Engine.**

2. **Automatic Engine Shut Down.** Approximate cost $900 to $1,200.

3. **Make Use of Advanced Truck Stop Electrification Facilities.** Visit www.idleaire.com.

4. **Install Auxiliary Power Units (APUs).** Cost ranges from $5,000 to $10,000 depending on the desired features.

5. **Install a Diesel-Powered Direct-Fired Heater.** Approximate cost $900 to $3,000.

6. **Install a Battery-Powered Engine Coolant Heater and/or an Evaporative Cooling System.** Approximately $550 to $700 for heating and $1,500 for cooling.

7. **Install an External Battery Pack.** Approximately $3,500.

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For more information, please contact the Division of Mobile Source Programs at 217/557-1441 or visit www.epa.state.il.us.